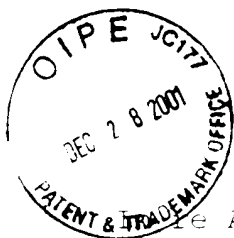


Docket No.: 2328-049

PATENT



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re Application of

Tugiang NI et al

Serial No. 09/689,615

Filed: October 13, 2000

For: VACUUM PLASMA PROCESSOR HAVING A CHAMBER WITH ELECTRODES
AND A COIL FOR PLASMA EXCITATION AND METHOD OF OPERATING
SAME

Group Art Unit: 1763

Examiner: L. Alejandro Mulero

#4
1/2/02
MW

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Honorable Commissioner of
Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

Applicants respond to the December 7, 2001, Restriction Requirement by electing, without traverse, the apparatus claims 1-32. Applicants reserve the right to file a divisional application on the invention of method claims 33-39. An action on the merits of claims 1-32 is in order.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including

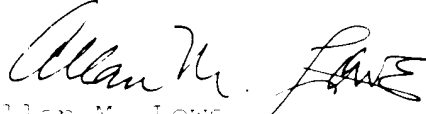
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Serial No. 09/689,616

extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 07-1337 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

LOWE HAUPTMAN GILMAN & BERNER, LLP

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Allan M. Lowe". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the last name "Lowe" being more prominent.

Allan M. Lowe
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Date: December 23, 2001